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STRANGER THAN FICTION.

A Horse That Was Swallowed Alive by a Hair From His Own Tail. From Florida comes the following letter from a veracious correspondent: "Being an ex-soldier and having only 15 months to serve to acquire a title to a quarter section of land, I went to Florida Not being posted as to the landmarks, I

in 1885 to put my plans into execution. had to hire a settler to locate the land for me, and as we had to go about eight miles through woods over bad roads, with no bridges, we went horseback, and in crossing a stream I noticed that my friend's horse's tail caught in an old pine stump, pulling a hair from the tail and leaving the hair fast to the stump.
"As you know, a horsehair will turn to

a snake when in water, and I made up my mind to watch that particular hair. So after locating my land and getting a log house built I took my gun and started out on a hunt, and during my rambles I came to the stream that my friend and I had prossed, and, sure enough, there was the horsehair snake as big as my thumb and over four feet long. As he was fast to the stump I let him alone and continued my hunt, bagging some quail, a rabbit and two squirrels, which gave me a good mess of fresh meat. As I was very busy for the next three weeks I had no time to visit my pet snake, so you may judge of my sur-prise when on my next visit to find the make as big as a stovepipe and over 40 feet long. As I was going to have a log rolling the next week I kept my secret so that we could have some fun after we were through our day's work. I got everything ready and sent out my invitations. My friend that showed me the land came with the rest of them and told me that his horse was lost or stolen. We all pitched in and did a good day's work and had a good dinner. I told them my secret and we went to the branch. You can imagine our surprise when we found the snake as big

as big as a sugar barrel. "Well, to make a long story short, we killed the snake and cut him open, and my friend's lost horse tumbled out. We thought the horse was dead until he commenced to move, and soon ran around all right, and my friend rode him home. I have heard a great deal about horsehair snakes, and this is the only instance I know of where a horse was swallowed alive by a hair from his own tail."-Baltimoro American.

as a saw log, with a bulge in the middle

What the House of Lords Is For. The house of lords cannot now profess to make the laws of the nation, but it can and does prevent vast changes being made in the constitution by a snap vote or a scratch majority. It does for the British constitution what a written document unalterable except under certain special conditions, does for other forms of government But for it the whole of our laws and liberties would lie at the mercy of any man who could get control of the house of commons for 24 hours. It considers all legislation, and though in practice it seldom ventures to make changes it is abl to insist on a reference to the country if it holds that a great and farreaching revolu tion is being made without the electors being really aware of what is happening In fact, it views the laws sent up to it in the light of this question, "Ought this law if not amended to be rejected until it has been referred to the nation with the demand, 'Is it your pleasure that this bill shall become law?' "—London Spectator.

Picture of a Quaker. Lucretia Mott, the eminent Quaker minister and antislavery apostle, was a not beautiful in the strict sense of that that was little short of it. Her brother, Thomas Coffin, however, was not in the least entitled to any claims of that sort, a fact which caused him as much amuse ment as it did any one of his friends. He was once asked by a friend for his picture, but extended little hope that the inquirer

would ever get what he asked for.
"Well, Thomas," said the other, "if
thee will not get one taken for me, will thee let me have a copy of an old one?"
"I am afraid I cannot do that either," replied Thomas. "The fact is that I once did have a picture taken of myself, and it was so good that I destroyed it."-Harper's Round Table.

German In Milwaukee. In Milwaukee, of course, the English language is used in the conduct of business, although at least from 50 to 60, if not a greater, per cent of the people have command of the German language, which is taught in the public achools.

In almost every business, in nearly all the commercial houses, which are for the most part conducted by Germans, the German language is used along with the English, and so ignorance of German is regard ed as great a fault as ignorance of English, if not a greater one. Recently an attempt was made to remove the German language from the curriculum of the public schools, but the inquiry instituted for this purpose produced a result very vexatious to the innovators. The overwhelming majority of the non-German parents decided in fa-vor of having their children taught the German language. Thus Milwaukee, in this case also, has made good her reputation as the German city of America .-Chautauquan.

Did English a Good Turn. Bismarck was no lover of England or of the English language, yet he did them both a good turn at the famous congress of Berlin at the close of the Russo-Turkish war. Before that time the diplomatic language of the world had been French, and it was expected that the discussions of the congress would be conducted in that tongue. Lord Beaconsfield flatly refused to use any language but English, and Bismarck, who was president of the congress, thought it would be inconsiderate to let Beaconsfield stand alone in so doing, so he spoke English, too, and English was thus made the official language of the congress. It has not become the universal diplomatic language, but French has ceased to be that, and English seems to have the best title to the succession .-

Youth's Companion. Perils of Divers. Scientific investigations have demonstrated the fact that the great depths of the ocean are inhabited by species of fish that cannot live in the upper levels. Their flesh is so loose in texture that it falls apart when the great pressure of water is reduced. A report concerning the sponge fishermen of Tripoli gives evidence to the effect that similar causes will produce similar results in men. The divers frequently die of paralysis of the limbs caused by pressure on the spine through working at too great depths. Those suffering from this complaint are said to become perfectly well when they redescend, to be again attacked when they emerge from the sea.—San Francisco Argonaut

A Crooked Brook. The crookedest brock in America is No Name pond brook in Maine, beside which an electric road runs for some distance below Crowleys. The Songo river is no in-stance to this crooked little stream. It is so crooked that suckers caught there have curvature of the spine, according to a Lewiston hum:rist.

Geese a Token of Love. A Chinese gentleman always sends a pair of geese to the lady of his choice, and they are looked upon as the emblems of conjugal fidelity.

Britain was known to the Phœnician as Barat-Anac, or "the land of tin," as far back as the year 1037 B. C. Some 500 years afterward the island was alluded to by the Romans under the name of Britannia, which subsequently became shortened into Britain.

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ODD ROMAN MONUMENTS.

Were Usually Circular In Form. The circular form was an old favorite with the Romans for their sepulchrad structures of a more pretending class than ordinary. It will be sufficient here merely to mention those in honor of Augustus For bilious headache, dyspepsia and Hadrian. The tomb of Caecilia Metella is a low cylinder, the height being only 62 feet, while the diameter is 90, and it may be considered as nearly solid, the chamber or cellar being no more than 19 feet in diameter. This cylindrical mass is raised upon a square substructure, which combination of the two forms is productive of agreeable contrast, and it was accordingly frequently resorted to.

The tomb of Plautius Sylvanus, near

Tivoli, consists also of a short cylindrical substructure on a square basement, but is otherwise of peculiar design, one side of that stereobate being carried up so as to form a sort of low screen or frontispiece decorated with six half columns and five upright tablets, with inscriptions between The tomb of Munatius Plancus at Gaeta is a simple, circular structure of low proportions, the height not exceeding the di-

ameter and therefore hardly to be called a tower, notwithstanding that it is now popularly called Roland's or Orlando's tower. Of quite different character and design from any of the preceding ones is the ancient Roman sepulchral monument at St. Remi, which consists of three stages -the first a square sterobte raised on gradini and entirely covered on each side with sculptures in relief, the next also square, with an attached fluted Corinthian angle and an open arch on each side and the uppermost a Corinthian rotunda, forming an open or monopteral temple—i. , without any cella—the center of which is occupied by two statues. As instances of other combinations we may briefly refer to what is called the tomb of Virgil, near Naples, consisting of

equestrian statue.—Architect. THE FATTENING EARTH.

square substructure surmounted by

conical one; to the Roman monument at

Constantine, in Africa, conjectured to

have been a cenotaph in honor of Constan

tine, the lower portion of which is a cylin

drical structure surrounded by a peristyle

of 24 Doric columns and carried up as a

lofty cone in receding courses or gradini,

leaving at its summit a platform for an

Meteor Dust Increases Its Bulk Ten Thousand Tons Every Year. As people grow old they usually grow stouter, and in this respect our planet is very human indeed, for the earth is growing stouter and heavier every year by some

10.000 tons.

The food on which our planet is thus fattening herself consists of meteors or shooting stars. Though we have only one great shower of shooting stars-in November-still every day the earth is crossing the paths of meteors and catching shooting stars in her atmosphere, which acts as a net. Shooting stars are pieces of stone varying in size from a marble to a paving stone, revolving round the sun. The earth attracts them by her weight, and they rush toward us at a tremendous speed. On plunging into the atmosphere they become heated by the friction they encounter, and so become white hot and are finally driven off into gas. Every minute the earth is being subjected to this fusillade, though most of the meteors are too small to be seen by the naked eye. The gas condenses into dust, and slowly sinks to the earth. At the very lowest estimate 400,000,000 meteors fall into our atmosphere every day, or over 140,000,000,000

stars are dissolved sinks to the earth, and if the dust of each meteor weighs but a single grain this amounts in the aggregate to 22,000,000 pounds, or 10,000 tons. By this amount the earth increases every year, and as she never parts with a single grain she is growing rapidly heavier. But large as it may seem in the mass it is really a trifle compared with the weight of the

If this annual increment of meteor dus were spread evenly over the entire surface of the earth, it would form a layer less than one-hundred-millionth part of an inch in thickness .- Pearson's Weekly.

Traveling Companions. Travelers often prove by their experiences that under certain conditions all men are equal. A German banker, traveling by rail in a first class carriage toward Vienna, had as a fellow traveler at one of the intermediate stations an old gentleman, who entered into conversation and proved very pleasant.

The banker got out before his companion, and as he did so asked the gentleman how far he was going. The gentleman replied, "To Vienna." "I have a daughter very well married there," said the banker. "I should like to give you a note of introduction to her." ried there," said the other.

"I have also a daughter very well mar "Would it be too great a liberty to asl the name?" inquired the banker. "My daughter," the gentleman au swered, "is married to the emperor of Austria." It was the old king of Bavaria. -Youth's Companion.

Where He Fell. Down the postoflice steps the Rev. Dr. Fyfthly carefully picked his way, and then

his feet suddenly shot out, and he went down right in the midst of a group of stockbrokers. "Ah, good morning, doctor!" laughed the stockbrokers, recognizing the minister. "You remind us of the wicked man whose foot slippeth." "Nay," retorted the good minster, "but

rather do I seem like the man who went down to Jericho." "How is that?" chorused the brokers. "Because he fell among thieves," murmured the doctor as he got up and moved ecorously away.—Anglo-American.

An Insurance Wail. "We," remarks a Missouri editor, "are getting a little tired of this life insurance msiness. When a man dies nowadays, the first thing they ask is, 'Was he insured, and for how much?' The papers also generally wind up the obituary notice with the amount of insurance. Soon the obituary notices will read something like this: Peter Jones died and left a wife and two children. Loss fully covered by insurance.' Or, if the deceased is not insured, it will read about as follows: 'John Smith is dead. He leaves a wife. Total loss; no insurance.' "--Kansas City Star.

Her Ambition. Maude Valerie White, the English music teacher, says, in Cornhill, when discussing the humors of a musical life, that there are people who believe that singing can be learned, like any mechanical art, and that in three or four months an industrious pupil would be able to earn her living thereby. One music master was visited by a lady who said she wished to become

professional singer. Would he try her voice? "Yes," was the answer. "Are you a soprano or contralto?" "I really don't know," was the answer. "I haven't any voice yet." The teacher was naturally puzzled.

"What do you mean?" asked he. "Well," she replied, "I'm 48, and I've never sung a note in my life. But I'm a widow, and I've only £25 a year. One can't live on that. I can't say I'm fond of music; I never was, but I've been told it's a lucrative business, and so I want to become a professional singer. How long will it take?"

Funny Irish Sayings. Here are a few Irish bulls: An Irish member of the Ventnor local board some 80 years ago proposed that St. Boniface down should be planted with some fine old oaks. Horaco Walpole records one which he pronounces the best he ever met with. "I

hate that woman." said a gentleman. looking at a person who had been his nurse. "I hate her, for when I was a child she changed me at nurse." This was a perplexing assertion, but a Opens on the Nineteenth of September, at the residence of Mr.J. B. Morrow, Institute street English course, French and Music. For terms, &c., address MISS BLLA MORROW, Billicott City, Md. Signal Course, French and Music. For terms, &c., address MISS BLLA MORROW, Billicott City, Md. similar instance is recorded in the auto-

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TAKING EFFECT OCTOBER 2, 1898.

Trains leave Hillen Station as follows:

4 30 A. M.—Fast Mail, Main Line, N. and W. I
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Chambersburg, Martinsburg and Winches

ter.

17.22 A. M.—York, B. & H. Div., Main Line east of Emory Grove, Carlisle and G. & H. R. R.

18.11 A. M.—Main Line, Chambersburg, Prederick, Emmitsburg and N. and W. R. R. to Shenandoah.

19.30 A. M.—Accom. for Union Bridge and Hancour

10.17 A. M.—Accom. for Union Bridge, York

2.35 p. m.—Accom. for Union Bridge. 13.32 p. m.—Bxpress for York and B. & H. Div

74.33 P. M.—Accom. for Alesia. 14.03 P. M.—Ex. Main Line Points, also Fred-erick, Emmitsburg, Shippensburg and N. &

orick, Emmitsburg, Shippensburg and N. S. W. R. R.
†501 r. M.—Accom. for Emory Grove.
†8.10 p. M.—Accom. for Union Bridge.
§10.55 p. M.—Accom. for Emory Grove.
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fleers In Matrimoulal Affairs. This regimental family is, as a rule, by no means an Eveless Eden. Several of the officers will probably be married men, and the ladies are usually recognized as members of the regimental family and are quite as keen as their husbands to maintwo doors west of J. Frank Mayfield's Sadler's Shop, Main street, Ellicott City. Work done satisfactorily and guaranteed. tain in every way the honor and credit of the corps. The regiment likewise feels that the married ladies belong to it quite as much as do their husbands, and outsiders are occasionally made to repent an action, possibly unintentional, which has been construct into a social slight on one

IN A BRITISH REGIMENT.

The Unwritten Rules That Guide the Of-

of these ladies. In some regiments the ladies all dine at mess with their husbands' brother officers on Christmas night. In others other little friendly customs exist, identifying them with the corps, and in the case of all regi-mental entertainments the wife of the senfor officer will, as a matter of course, re ceive the guests.

In view of what I have said above the reader must not run away with the idea that matrimony is at all encouraged in the cavalry. Very far from it. It is recognized that human frailty is such that some allowance must be made for senior officers, but the married subaltern is not likely to find himself popular and unless a very good chap may receive a strong hint to emove himself and his bride to some other regiment.

The feeling about matrimony may be summed up as follows: The colonel should be married—a bachelor colonel in the mess is not alway a joy forever; majors, especially if grumpy and livery in the morning, may be married; captains should not be married, and subalterns must be bachelors, though, sad to say, they often prove quite as susceptible as their seniors. The chief reason for this feeling against matrimony is that it is bad for the mess.

Married officers only pay half the usual mess subscriptions through their agents, and as they seldom dine in the mess tho cost of maintaining a proper establishment, being divisible into fewer parts, falls more heavily on the bachelor members. Also the sociability of the mess suffers, and, though this is strictly between ourselves, the addition of a new lady to the married roll of a regiment is not always found to increase the harmony of its regimental life. In some corps would be benedicts have to pay a fine of £100 to the funds of the mess as a compensation for their intended desertion.—A British Officer in Harper's Magazine.

LONDON FOG.

A Carlyle Picture of a Dark, Damp Day In the English Metropolis. All people here have got a thing they call influenza, a dirty, feverish kind of cold-very miserable and so general as was hardly over seen, writes Carlyle to his sister, Mrs. Hanning. Printing offices, manufactories, tailor shops and such like are struck silent, every second man lying sniftering in his respective place of abode. The same seems to be the rule in the north too. I suppose the miserable temperate of climate may be the cause.

Worse weather never fell from the Lift, to my judgment, than we have here reek, mist, cold, wet. The day before yes terday there was one of our completest London fogs, a thing of which I suppose you even at Manchester can form no kind of notion. For we are exactly ten times as big as you are, and parts of usare hardly less rocky and dirty. Further, we lie flat on the edge of a broad river. And now suppose there were a mist black enough and such that no smoke or emanation could rise from us, but fell again the instant it had got out of the chimney head! People have to light candles at noon, paches have torch bearers running at the horses' heads. It is like a sea of ink. I wonder the people do not all drop down LOUIS ZITZER, Proprietor.

dead in it, since they are not fishes of a particular sort. It is cause enough for influenza. Poor Jane, who misses nothing. has caught fast hold of this Sunday last and has really been miserably ill. As for myself. I have felt these wretched fogs penetrating into me with a clear design to produce cough, but I have set my face against it and said no. This really does a great deal and has served me hitherto. hope to escape the influenza. They say i is abating.—Atlantic. Only Turks. During the Crimean war Lord Raglan

was most conciliatory in his conduct and language to the French, but unluckily from old peninsular associations he was now and then betrayed into speaking of them as "the enemy." "If we are placed here and the enemy are posted there"-"Good heavens, my lord!" Lord de Ros would cry, "What are you saying?" He was also particularly desirous of establishing cordial relations between the English and Turkish armies and was much dis turbed at a quarrel which took place be tween some of the soldiers. When the com batants were dispersed, one or two Turk The Theatre Train leaves Baltimore at 11 10 p. m., daily and arrives at Ellicott City at midnight.

ish soldiers were left lying dead. Lord de Ros was sent to the grand vizier to express Lord Raglan's concern and to promise that every effort should be made o find out and punish the guilty persons On his beginning to lament an unfortunate occurrence the Turk looked anxious but on the matter being broken to him he exclaimed with great relief: "Is that all? What can it matter if they are killed or not?" Lord de Ros returned to Lord Raglan, and in answer to his anxious inqui ries he replied: "It is all right. Our fellows are welcome to kill as many o them as they please."-Spectator.

Talking With Foreigners. "I am frequently amused," said a gentleman who notices things, "in remarking the tendency of most people to raise the voice when addressing a foreigner who has an imperfect knowledge of the language. The impression seems to be that the louder one yells the more likely one is to be understood, whereas the proper way to speak to a foreigner is to use a low, dis tinct tone, and, above all, pronounce each word separately. What makes any strange language hard to understand is the habit which natives fall into of running the last syllable of one word into the first of the

"For instance, you might make a sound like this, 'Ice awm is terb lanket ooday,' and while I would know perfectly well that you said, 'I saw Mr. Blank teday,' no Frenchman or German, even with good theoretical knowledge of the tongue would have the faintest idea what you were driving at. Then, the chances are, you proceed to repeat the sentence faster and faster and louder and louder and go away marveling at the stupidity of our cousins across the pond."-New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Handy For the Farmers. When a farmer or a boat builder at Winter Harbor needs a grindstone, he goes down the bay and fishes for one with ropes and tackle from a boat. The bottom is covered with them, and they can be hauled out all ready to set up. Many years ago a schooner from Rockland loaded with a cargo of several hundred grindstones went to wreck on the strip of rocks now and for that reason known as Grindstone point. She went to the bottom, and as the timbers rotted and separated or were washed away by the frequent storm the grindstones were scattered around, a quarry which everybody is at liberty to patronize for himself.-Winter Harbor (Me.) Letter in Chicago Record.

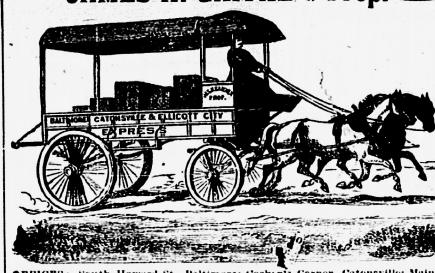
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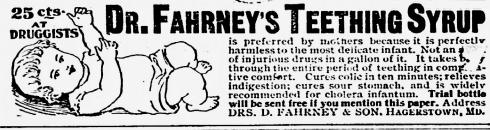


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